

## REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment seeks to place this application in condition for allowance. The instant application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 10/212,527. Application Serial No. 10/212,527 has been allowed, the issue fee has been paid, and it will issue shortly.

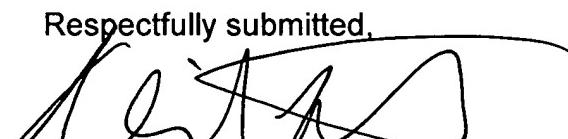
The instant application has been amended to reflect its relationship to Application Serial No. 10/212,527, among others; thereby perfecting the claim of priority. (See, 35 USC §§ 120 and 121). No new matter has been added.

Pending claims 1-24 have been deleted, without prejudice, and new claims 25-39 have been added to more fully protect certain aspects of the inventions described and illustrated in this application. These newly submitted claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

## CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of this continuation application. Applicant submits that all of the claims present patentable subject matter which definitely set forth the novel and unobvious features of the inventions. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests prompt examination and allowance of all of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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